

Powers' Wife Files Countersuit

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Sept. 29 (AP)—The wife of former U2 pilot Francis Gary Powers filed a countersuit yesterday to the pilot's suit seeking to divorce her.

Barbara Powers filed the suit in Baldwin Superior Court.

The 28-year-old brunette and Powers, who was downed May 1, 1960, while flying a reconnaissance mission over the Soviet Union, were married April 2, 1955. They have no children.

Mrs. Powers denied charges of her estranged husband that she was guilty of excessive intoxication and that on numerous occasions she cursed and abused the former pilot without cause.

She also denied charges that she treated her husband in a cruel manner which made it impossible to continue marital relations. The couple separated May 27, 1962.

In Powers' divorce suit he alleged her "acts of cruelty were willfully inflicted" and caused him "to become highly nervous and endangered his health." This charge was denied also by Mrs. Powers.

Mrs. Powers' countersuit said her husband has lost his whole sense of values and duties as an American citizen towards his wife, his country and toward his fellow man, and is obsessed with the material things in life, especially money, and has no religious life, all of which are opposite to the thinking of the defendant.

She is asking for permanent alimony. However, no amount is specified.

The case is expected to be heard for trial in October.

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